

and closed for public on account of development of cracks in it;

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken for its proper upkeep and maintenance,

(c) the details of expenditure incurred in this regard during each of the last three years, and

(d) the time by which its repair work is likely to be completed and opened for public

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) (a) The Qutab Minar is in a sound state of preservation. The entry into the minar is closed on account of security considerations

(b) Besides day to day maintenance, conservation works are carried out as per actual needs

(c) The expenditure incurred on the maintenance and conservation of this monument during the last three years is as under

<i>Year</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
1988-89	Rs 9,19,012 00
1989-90	Rs 13,61,263,00
1990-91	Rs 7,74,137 00

(d) Conservation of Qutab Minar is a continuous process. There is no proposal to re-open the Qutab Minar to the public for the present

Operation of Narrow Gauge System

5436 SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether his attention has been invited to the news-item captioned "Indian Railways' ways of serving people better" appearing in the 'Economic Times' New Delhi dated March 7, 1992,

(b) if so, the facts in this regard,

(c) whether the operation of narrow-gauge system is at present a financial deadweight,

(d) the total track mileage of narrow-gauge system in the country and its per annum revenue earning potential, and

(e) how is it proposed to utilise this system profitably in view of the present day financial crunch?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) It is true that the Narrow gauge lines are generally running in loss

(d) Narrow Gauge system on Indian Railways constituted 4068 Route Kilometres as on 31 3 91, and its earnings during 1990-91 was about Rs. 21 crores

(e) By minimising the working expenses and progressive closure of financially non-viable narrow gauge lines wherever feasible

Training to Physicians for AIDS Control

5437 SHRI R SURENDER REDDY Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Indian Medical Association (IMA) have prepared a pilot project for imparting special training to the general physicians in regard to AIDS control;

(b) whether the Government have accorded sanction for such a project,

(c) if so, the details thereof and

(d) if not, whether such projects are proposed to be considered for various States and Union Territories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D K THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA) (a) The Indian Medical Association has taken up a project of training doctors for management diagnosis and prevention of AIDS. First training course was held on 19.2.1992. A symposium was held at the 9th National College of General practitioners. A format for training of doctors is being evolved by calling the experts from WHO, ICMR, Medical Colleges, Blood Banks and other related specialists.

(b) Government has not received any proposal from Indian Medical Association in this regard.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Government is prepared to encourage such activities conducted by Indian Medical Association or any other Agency in any part of the country.

National Policy on Education

5438 SHRI R SURENDER REDDY Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the type of orientation and refresher courses for teachers being provided under the new national policy on education?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) In pursuance of the National Policy on Education, 1986, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Restructuring and Reorganisa-

tion of Teacher Education was taken up in 1987-88 which primarily provides for setting up of District Institutes of Education and Training (DIETs) and upgradation of selected Secondary Teacher Education Institutions into Colleges of Teacher Education/Institutions of Advanced Study in Education (CTEs/IASEs). DIETs/CTEs/IASEs are expected to provide quality pre-service and in-service training to school teachers and Adult Education/Non-formal Education personnel and general academic support to school and Adult Education/Non-formal Education Systems in their districts. These institutions provide the following types of orientation and refresher courses to school teachers:

- (i) Content-cum pedagogy courses for primary, upper primary and Secondary Teachers.
- (ii) Theme specific programmes like Educational Technology, Micro planning, education of disabled children, minimum levels of learning, continuous and comprehensive evaluation, etc.
- (iii) Subject specific courses like teaching of languages, sciences, Mathematics and Social Sciences, etc.

The National Council of Educational Research & Training (NCERT) and State Councils of Educational Research and Training (SCERTs) are also conducting above types of orientation programmes. Under the Programme of Mass Orientation of School Teachers, teachers were oriented in major thrust areas of the National Policy of Education and also in the use of Operation Blackboard materials.

Mental Health Act, 1987

5439 SHRI R SURENDER REDDY Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state